

## STATE OF VERMONT ENHANCED 9-1-1 BOARD

### Public Hearing – Proposed Rule Governing Outage Reporting Requirements for Originating Carriers and Electric Power Companies 9 October 2020 Meeting held via Microsoft TEAMS

#### ***10:03 AM – Call to Order***

Executive Director Neal called the hearing to order. The following were in attendance:

#### **Enhanced 911 Board Staff Members Present**

Barbara Neal, Executive Director  
Soni Johnson, Administrative Assistant

#### **Others Present**

Jonathan Gibson, Member of the Public  
Cecile Betit, Member of the Public  
Stephen Whitaker, Member of the Public  
James White, Comcast  
Nancy Malmquist  
Tim Wilkinson, NECTA  
Gordon Mathews, VTEL

Jessica Oski, Comcast  
Charles Storrow, Leonine Public Affairs/AT&T  
Michelle Painter Lama, T-Mobile  
Matt DeTura, CTIA  
John Cummings, Charter  
Dylan Zwicky  
Robert Dostis, GMP

**Overview** – Executive Director Neal provided a brief overview of the proposed rule and let attendees know the deadline for submitting written public comment (comments must be received by Friday, 10/16/20).

**Call for Public Comment** – Executive Director Neal opened the floor for public comment.

#### **Summary – Industry Representatives**

- Outage reporting should be standardized nationwide.
- Outage reports should be considered inherently confidential.
- VT's rule should be more closely aligned with California's emergency rule.
- VT's rule should be revisited a year after it goes into effect to determine if any changes need to be made.
- Change should be made to section 4.3.1 – "extent possible" should be updated to "extent known".

#### **Summary – Members of Public**

- VT is a very rural state – will the reporting by zip code requirement included in the bill work for VT?
- Proposed rule seems to be specific to wireless providers; will the reporting thresholds be adopted for landline carriers?
- Outage reports should not be considered confidential.
- Financial & technical considerations should not trump public safety considerations.
- Accurate cell tower information is not available and should be a requirement of the rule.

Note: Most attendees indicated they would be filing written comments with the Board. All public comments received by the 10/16/20 deadline will be available on the Enhanced 911 Board website (<https://e911.vermont.gov/>).

#### **Adjournment**

There being no further public comments the hearing was adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted:

Soni Johnson  
Soni Johnson, Admin. Assistant

10/15/20  
Date